

**Abstract**

In one aspect, the invention provides a laser diode assembly, comprising a carrier, a laser diode, a first bonding member, and a second bonding member. The carrier has a conductive layer formed thereon that is sized for attaching at least two bonding members thereto. The laser diode is operably coupled to the carrier and has first and second conductive pads formed thereon. The first and second conductive pads are each sized for attaching at least one bonding member thereto. The first bonding member couples the first conductive pad to the conductive layer of the carrier, and the second bonding member couples the second conductive pad to the conductive layer of the carrier.

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